

REMARKS

Please reconsider this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-36 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 11, 20, and 29 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly from claims 1, 11, 20, and 29. Claims 11-36 are withdrawn with this response. Further, new claims 37 and 38, which depend from claim 1, have been added.

Species Election under 35 U.S.C. § 121

In response to the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed July 17, 2006, Applicant hereby elects the species of Group 1, which includes claims 1-10, for continued examination without traverse.

New Claims

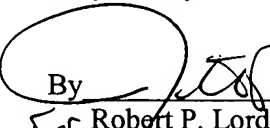
New claims 37 and 38, which depend from claim 1, have been added. Support for the new claims may be found, for example, in paragraph [0045] of the specification. Thus, no new subject matter has been added by the addition of these claims.

Conclusion

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/515001).

Dated: August 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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